

Message Text

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71

ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 PRS-01 H-02 SSM-05

SIG-02 OC-06 CCO-00 EB-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 PA-02 SP-02 USIE-00 INRE-00 /078 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/P:EOJONES:RGH

APPROVED BY NEA/P:GFSHERMAN

S/PRS - MR. FUNSETH (INFO)

H - MR. FLATEN (INFO)

SSM - MR. MC ANDREW

NEA - MS. GRIFFIN

NEA/ARN - MR. REUTHER

NEA/IAI - MR. SMITH

NEA/EGY - MR. NEWBERRY

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O 122306Z OCT 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY SANA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

USMISSION SINAI

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

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USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
USCINCEUR

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GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL, CINCEUR FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING - OCTOBER 12

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE, FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS
FROM DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S PRESS BRIEFING FOR
OCTOBER 12, 1976:

Q. WHAT CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT THE STATUS OF THE DISCUS-
SIONS WITH THE ISRAELIS ON THE DISPUTE IN THE GULF OF
SUEZ ON OIL DRILLING?

A. I CANNOT ADD ANYTHING MORE THAN WHAT THE SECRETARY
SAID, ACKNOWLEDGING THAT THAT SUBJECT HAD BEEN DISCUSSED,
AND THAT WE WILL CONTINUE OUR DISCUSSIONS.

Q. CAN YOU SAY ANYTHING ABOUT THE DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN THE
UNITED STATES AND FRANCE REGARDING NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION--
YOU KNOW, THE PAKISTAN DEAL, AND NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION IN
GENERAL?

A. ARE YOU REFERRING TO THEIR OWN STATEMENT?
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Q. SEVERAL STORIES--THERE HAVE BEEN STORIES IN THE
PRESS--FRENCH STATEMENTS ABOUT IT--ARE THERE ANY

NEGOTIATIONS GOING ON?

A. AS YOU KNOW, THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT ISSUED A
STATEMENT OF ITS VIEWS CONCERNING NUCLEAR ENERGY AND

NON-PROLIFERATION; AND WE INTEND TO STUDY THIS
STATEMENT WITH GREAT ATTENTION --

Q. DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING MORE ON THAT?

A. -- WE WELCOME THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT STATEMENT AS A
CONSTRUCTIVE CONTRIBUTION TO THE COOPERATIVE EFFORT--IN
WHICH THE U.S. HAS TAKEN A MAJOR ROLE OVER THE LAST FEW
YEARS--AMONG THE SUPPLIER-STATES TO DEAL WITH THE PROBLEM
OF RECONCILING THE GROWTH OF PEACEFUL USES OF NUCLEAR
ENERGY, WITH THE NEED TO REDUCE THE RISK OF NUCLEAR
PROLIFERATION. IT WILL BE GIVEN FULL WEIGHT IN THE
PRESIDENT'S OWN FORTHCOMING POLICY STATEMENT ON THIS
SUBJECT.

Q. BESIDE THAT, IS THERE ANY SORT OF DISCUSSION TOWARD
A DEAL WHICH WOULD GIVE THE FRENCH A CERTAIN SHARE OF
THE MARKET PROVIDED THAT THEY DON'T SEND DANGEROUS ITEMS
TO (INAUDIBLE) COUNTRIES?

A. I AM NOT AWARE OF THAT BEING A PART OF ANY TALKS WE
HAVE BEEN HAVING WITH THE FRENCH.

Q. IN AN INTERVIEW YESTERDAY, FOREIGN MINISTER ALLON
SAID THAT THE DESTRUCTION OF THE AMERICAN OIL COMPANIES
BOUYS IN THE GULF OF SUEZ WAS AN ACCIDENT AND THAT CERTAIN
LOW-LEVEL ISRAELI OFFICIALS WERE RESPONSIBLE, WHO WILL BE
REPRIMANDED APPROPRIATELY. HAS THIS ISSUE BEEN RESOLVED,
AS FAR AS THE UNITED STATES IS CONCERNED? CAN YOU BRING
US UP TO DATE ON THE STATE OF PLAY?

A. I WAS ASKED A GENERAL QUESTION ABOUT SUEZ AND OIL
DRILLING BEFORE YOU CAME IN, AND ALL I HAVE ON IT, AS I
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SAID, WAS THAT THE SECRETARY HAD CONFIRMED THAT THE
GENERAL SUBJECT HAD COME UP IN HIS CONVERSATIONS WITH MR.
ALLON. BUT I DO NOT HAVE ANYTHING BEYOND THAT.

Q. WELL ALLON ALSO WENT ON TO SAY THAT THE EGYPTIANS,
HOWEVER, ARE GIVING CONCESSIONS TO OTHER FOREIGN OIL
COMPANIES TO DRILL IN THE EASTERN SECTOR OF THE GULF OF
SUEZ--IN THIS DISPUTED AREA. DO WE HAVE ANY CONFIRMATION
OF THAT? AND CAN YOU TAKE THE QUESTION AS TO WHETHER WE
HAVE RAISED THAT WITH THE EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT?

A. I WILL TAKE THE QUESTION.

Q. ANYTHING ON LEBANON? ANY COMMENTS ON THE AGREEMENT?

A. I DO NOT HAVE ANYTHING SPECIFIC, EXCEPT TO RESTATE,
AS I HAVE MANY TIMES WHEN SUCH A DEVELOPMENT HAS TAKEN
PLACE, THAT WE HOPE IT WILL BE SUCCESSFUL THIS TIME, AND
THAT PEACE WILL BE RESTORED TO LEBANON. ROBINSON

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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